| | (Original Signature of Meml | ber) |
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| 111TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION | H.R. | |

To amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to prohibit States from refusing to accept balloting materials solely because the materials are generated through the use of a computer program, are not printed on a specific type of paper, or do not otherwise meet similar extraneous requirements which are not clearly necessary to prevent fraud in the conduct of elections, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

| Mrs. | MALONEY | introduced | the | following | bill; | which | was | referred | to | the |
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| | Com | ${\rm mittee\ on\ _}$ | | | | | | | | |

A BILL

To amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to prohibit States from refusing to accept balloting materials solely because the materials are generated through the use of a computer program, are not printed on a specific type of paper, or do not otherwise meet similar extraneous requirements which are not clearly necessary to prevent fraud in the conduct of elections, and for other purposes.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
- 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

| | 2 |
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| 1 | SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. |
| 2 | This Act may be cited as the "Overseas Voting Prac- |
| 3 | tical Amendments Act of 2009". |
| 4 | SEC. 2. DESIGNATION OF OFFICIAL FEDERAL FORM AS |
| 5 | FEDERAL VOTER REGISTRATION AND ABSEN- |
| 6 | TEE BALLOT APPLICATION. |
| 7 | (a) Designation and Distribution.—Section 101 |
| 8 | of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting |
| 9 | Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff) is amended— |
| 10 | (1) in subsection (b)(2), by striking "an official |
| 11 | post card form" and inserting "an official Federal |
| 12 | Voter Registration and Absentee Ballot Applica- |
| 13 | tion"; and |
| 14 | (2) in subsection $(c)(2)$, by striking "official |
| 15 | post card forms" and inserting "official Federal |
| 16 | Voter Registration and Absentee Ballot Applica- |
| 17 | tions". |
| 18 | (b) Conforming Amendments.— |
| 19 | (1) STATE RESPONSIBILITIES.—Section |
| 20 | 102(a)(4) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff—1(a)(4)) |
| 21 | is amended by striking "the official post card form" |
| 22 | and inserting "the official Federal Voter Registra- |
| 23 | tion and Absentee Ballot Application". |
| 24 | (2) Use of single application for all sub- |

SEQUENT ELECTIONS.—Section 104 of such Act (42)

U.S.C. 1973ff—3) is amended—

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| 1 | (A) in subsection (a), by striking "an offi- |
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| 2 | cial post card form" and inserting "an official |
| 3 | Federal Voter Registration and Absentee Ballot |
| 4 | Application"; |
| 5 | (B) in subsection (c)— |
| 6 | (i) in the heading, by striking "Offi- |
| 7 | CIAL POST CARD FORM" and inserting |
| 8 | "Official Federal Voter Registra- |
| 9 | TION AND ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICA- |
| 10 | TION", and |
| 11 | (ii) in the matter preceding paragraph |
| 12 | (1), by striking "official post card form" |
| 13 | and inserting "official Federal Voter Reg- |
| 14 | istration and Absentee Ballot Application"; |
| 15 | and |
| 16 | (C) in subsection (e), by striking "the |
| 17 | postcard form" and inserting "the official Fed- |
| 18 | eral Voter Registration and Absentee Ballot Ap- |
| 19 | plication". |
| 20 | (3) Definition of Balloting Materials.— |
| 21 | Section 107(2) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff— |
| 22 | 6(2)) is amended by striking "official post card |
| 23 | forms" and inserting "official Federal Voter Reg- |
| 24 | istration and Absentee Ballot Applications". |

| 1 | SEC. 3. PROHIBITING REFUSAL TO ACCEPT APPLICATIONS, |
|----|--|
| 2 | BALLOTS, AND OTHER MATERIALS FOR FAIL- |
| 3 | URE TO MEET NONESSENTIAL REQUIRE- |
| 4 | MENTS. |
| 5 | (a) Voter Registration and Absentee Ballot |
| 6 | APPLICATIONS.—Section 102 of the Uniformed and Over- |
| 7 | seas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff— |
| 8 | 1) is amended by adding at the end the following new sub- |
| 9 | section: |
| 10 | "(e) Prohibiting Refusal to Accept Applica- |
| 11 | TIONS FOR FAILURE TO MEET NONESSENTIAL REQUIRE- |
| 12 | MENTS.—A State may not refuse to accept or process any |
| 13 | otherwise valid voter registration application or absentee |
| 14 | ballot application (including the official Federal Voter |
| 15 | Registration and Absentee Ballot Application prescribed |
| 16 | under section 101) submitted by an absent uniformed |
| 17 | services voter or overseas voter on any of the following |
| 18 | grounds: |
| 19 | "(1) The application is not on a post card, is |
| 20 | printed or otherwise produced through the use of a |
| 21 | computer program or an Internet site, or is other- |
| 22 | wise a facsimile of an official application. |
| 23 | "(2) In the case of the official Federal Voter |
| 24 | Registration and Absentee Ballot Application pre- |
| 25 | scribed under section 101, the application does not |

| 1 | include specific information included on applications |
|----|---|
| 2 | produced by the State. |
| 3 | "(3) The application, the envelope in which the |
| 4 | application is submitted, or any affidavit or other at- |
| 5 | testation accompanying the application does not con- |
| 6 | form to specific requirements under State law re- |
| 7 | garding the size, shape, weight, or color of the paper |
| 8 | on which it is produced. |
| 9 | "(4) The application is not notarized or wit- |
| 10 | nessed by a Notary Public or other official author- |
| 11 | ized to administer oaths. |
| 12 | "(5) The application is received by the State |
| 13 | other than through delivery by the United States |
| 14 | Postal Service. |
| 15 | "(6) The application is returned with insuffi- |
| 16 | cient postage. |
| 17 | "(7) The application, the envelope in which the |
| 18 | application is submitted, or any affidavit or other at- |
| 19 | testation accompanying the application does not |
| 20 | meet any other requirement which the Presidential |
| 21 | designee determines (under regulations promulgated |
| 22 | by the Presidential designee) is not clearly necessary |
| 23 | to prevent fraud in the conduct of elections.". |
| 24 | (b) Absentee Ballots.—Section 103 of such Act |
| 25 | (42 U.S.C. 1973ff—2) is amended— |

| 1 | (1) by redesignating subsection (f) as sub- |
|----|--|
| 2 | section (g); and |
| 3 | (2) by inserting after subsection (e) the fol- |
| 4 | lowing new subsection: |
| 5 | "(f) Prohibiting Refusal to Accept Ballot |
| 6 | For Failure to Meet Nonessential Require- |
| 7 | MENTS.—A State may not refuse to accept or process any |
| 8 | otherwise valid absentee ballot, including the Federal |
| 9 | write-in absentee ballot, submitted by an absent uniformed |
| 10 | services voter or overseas voter on any of the following |
| 11 | grounds: |
| 12 | "(1) The ballot as submitted is printed or oth- |
| 13 | erwise produced through the use of a computer pro- |
| 14 | gram or an Internet site or is otherwise a facsimile |
| 15 | of the original ballot. |
| 16 | "(2) The ballot, the envelope in which the ballot |
| 17 | is submitted, or any affidavit or other attestation ac- |
| 18 | companying the ballot as submitted does not con- |
| 19 | form to specific requirements under State law re- |
| 20 | garding the size, shape, weight, or color of the paper |
| 21 | on which it is produced. |
| 22 | "(3) The ballot is not notarized or witnessed by |
| 23 | a Notary Public or other official authorized to ad- |
| 24 | minister oaths. |

| 1 | "(4) The ballot is received by the State other |
|----|---|
| 2 | than through delivery by the United States Postal |
| 3 | Service. |
| 4 | "(5) The ballot is returned with insufficient |
| 5 | postage. |
| 6 | "(6) The envelope in which the ballot is sub- |
| 7 | mitted bears a postmark from a location within the |
| 8 | United States. |
| 9 | "(7) The envelope in which the ballot is sub- |
| 10 | mitted does not bear a postmark, if the voter has |
| 11 | signed and dated the ballot or the envelope in which |
| 12 | the ballot is submitted. |
| 13 | "(8) The ballot, the envelope in which the ballot |
| 14 | is submitted, or any affidavit or other attestation ac- |
| 15 | companying the ballot as submitted does not meet |
| 16 | any other requirement which the Presidential des- |
| 17 | ignee determines (under regulations promulgated by |
| 18 | the Presidential designee) is not clearly necessary to |
| 19 | prevent fraud in the conduct of elections.". |
| 20 | SEC. 4. RESTRICTIONS ON FORM OF DOCUMENTATION RE- |
| 21 | QUIRED FOR APPLICATIONS AND BALLOTS |
| 22 | PRODUCED BY STATES. |
| 23 | (a) Documentation Required for Voter Reg- |
| 24 | ISTRATION AND ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATIONS.— |
| 25 | Section 102 of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Ab- |

- 1 sentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff—1), as amended by
- 2 section 3(a), is amended by adding at the end the fol-
- 3 lowing new subsection:
- 4 "(f) Prohibiting Requirement of Documenta-
- 5 TION NOT AVAILABLE TO ABSENT UNIFORMED SERVICES
- 6 OR OVERSEAS VOTERS.—A State may not require an ab-
- 7 sent uniformed services voter or overseas voter who sub-
- 8 mits a voter registration application or absentee ballot ap-
- 9 plication produced by the State to include with the appli-
- 10 cation any form of documentation which may be issued
- 11 only to an individual who physically resides in the State
- 12 (such as a current State motor vehicle operator's license
- 13 or a current utility bill).".
- 14 (b) Documentation Required for Absentee
- 15 Ballots.—Section 103 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff—
- 16 2), as amended by section 3(b), is amended—
- 17 (1) by redesignating subsection (g) as sub-
- section (h); and
- 19 (2) by inserting after subsection (f) the fol-
- lowing new subsection:
- 21 "(g) Prohibiting Requirement of Documenta-
- 22 TION NOT AVAILABLE TO ABSENT UNIFORMED SERVICES
- 23 OR OVERSEAS VOTERS.—A State may not require an ab-
- 24 sent uniformed services voter or overseas voter who sub-
- 25 mits an absentee ballot produced by the State to include

| 1 | with the ballot any form of documentation which may be |
|----|--|
| 2 | issued only to an individual who physically resides in the |
| 3 | State (such as a current State motor vehicle operator's |
| 4 | license or a current utility bill).". |
| 5 | SEC. 5. REQUIRING CLARIFICATION OF POSTAGE MARK- |
| 6 | INGS ON CERTAIN BALLOTING MATERIALS |
| 7 | MAILED BY STATES. |
| 8 | Section 3406 of title 39, United States Code, is |
| 9 | amended— |
| 10 | (1) by redesignating subsection (b) as sub- |
| 11 | section (c); and |
| 12 | (2) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol- |
| 13 | lowing new subsection: |
| 14 | "(b) In the case of balloting materials under the Uni- |
| 15 | formed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act con- |
| 16 | sisting of pre-printed return envelopes which are prepared |
| 17 | by a State for the submission of materials by an absent |
| 18 | uniformed services voter or overseas voter under such |
| 19 | Act— |
| 20 | "(1) the State shall ensure that the address to |
| 21 | which the materials are to be submitted includes the |
| 22 | designation 'United States of America' or 'USA'; |
| 23 | "(2) the State shall ensure that the materials |
| 24 | state clearly the identity of the sender and the iden- |
| 25 | tity of the intended recipient; and |

| 1 | "(3) if the materials are designated as postage |
|----|--|
| 2 | paid, the State shall clarify whether the designation |
| 3 | applies only to materials mailed within the United |
| 4 | States or to materials mailed overseas through the |
| 5 | Army Post Office or Fleet Post Office.". |
| 6 | SEC. 6. PROVISION OF BALLOTS IN SUBSEQUENT ELEC- |
| 7 | TIONS. |
| 8 | (a) Permitting Voters to Request Absentee |
| 9 | BALLOTS IN ALL SUBSEQUENT ELECTIONS.—Section |
| 10 | 104(a) of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee |
| 11 | Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff—3(a)) is amended by strik- |
| 12 | ing "through the next 2 regularly scheduled general elec- |
| 13 | tions" and all that follows through "such general elec- |
| 14 | tions)," and inserting "(subject to subsections (b) and |
| 15 | (d))," |
| 16 | (b) Waiver of Requirement to Provide Absen- |
| 17 | TEE BALLOTS IN SUBSEQUENT ELECTIONS TO INDIVID- |
| 18 | UALS WITH UNKNOWN ADDRESSES.—Section 104(a) of |
| 19 | such Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff—3(a)) is amended by striking |
| 20 | the period at the end and inserting the following: ", other |
| 21 | than any election occurring after any absentee ballot or |
| 22 | other election material sent by the State to the voter is |
| 23 | returned to the State as undeliverable or with no for- |
| 24 | warding address within the State or after the voter notifies |

| 1 | the State that the voter is no longer an absent uniformed |
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| 2 | services voter or absentee voter.". |
| 3 | (c) Permitting Early Submission of Request |
| 4 | BY OVERSEAS VOTERS; PERMITTING EARLY SUBMISSION |
| 5 | During Previous Year.—Section 104(e) of such Act |
| 6 | (42 U.S.C. 1973ff—3(e)) is amended— |
| 7 | (1) by striking "during a year" and inserting |
| 8 | "or an overseas voter"; and |
| 9 | (2) by striking "for that year". |
| 10 | SEC. 7. SPECIAL RULES FOR USE OF FEDERAL WRITE-IN |
| 11 | ABSENTEE BALLOT IN CERTAIN STATES. |
| 12 | (a) Treatment of Voters Using Ballot to |
| 13 | VOTE IN STATES WITH SAME-DAY VOTER REGISTRA- |
| 14 | TION.—Section 103(c) of the Uniformed and Overseas |
| 15 | Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff—2(c)) is |
| 16 | amended by adding at the end the following new para- |
| 17 | graph: |
| 18 | "(4) If the voter submits the ballot (including |
| 19 | the Federal write-in absentee ballot) in an election |
| 20 | in a State in which voters may register to vote at |
| 21 | the polling place at the time of voting in an election |
| 22 | for Federal office, the voter shall be deemed to have |
| 23 | met the requirements for registering to vote in the |
| 24 | State if the voter has signed the ballot and has pro- |
| 25 | |

| 1 | official Federal Voter Registration and Absentee |
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| 2 | Ballot Application (prescribed under section 101) for |
| 3 | simultaneous voter registration and absentee ballot |
| 4 | application.". |
| 5 | (b) Use of Ballot for State and Local Elec- |
| 6 | TIONS IN CERTAIN STATES.—Section 103(a) of such Act |
| 7 | (42 U.S.C. 1973ff—2(a)) is amended by adding at the end |
| 8 | the following: "In the case of a State in which voters may |
| 9 | use a State absentee write-in ballot in elections for State |
| 10 | and local office, the State shall permit a voter who uses |
| 11 | the Federal write-in absentee ballot under this section to |
| 12 | use such ballot in elections for State and local office, and |
| 13 | the Presidential designee shall ensure that the Federal |
| 14 | write-in absentee ballot is designed to accommodate the |
| 15 | use of the ballot for this purpose.". |
| 16 | SEC. 8. APPLICATION OF UOCAVA TO INDIVIDUALS NEVER |
| 17 | RESIDING IN UNITED STATES WHOSE PAR |
| 18 | ENTS ARE OVERSEAS VOTERS. |
| 19 | Section 107(5)(C) of the Uniformed and Overseas |
| 20 | Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff— |
| 21 | 6(5)(C)) is amended to read as follows: |
| 22 | "(C) a person who resides outside the |
| 23 | United States and (but for such residence) |
| 24 | would be qualified to vote— |

| 1 | "(i) in the last place in which the per- |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 2 | son was domiciled before leaving the |
| 3 | United States, or |
| 4 | "(ii) in the case of an individual who |
| 5 | has never resided in the United States, in |
| 6 | the last place in which the person's parent |
| 7 | or guardian was domiciled before leaving |
| 8 | the United States or (if the parent or |
| 9 | guardian is domiciled in the United States) |
| 10 | the place in which the parent or guardian |
| 11 | is domiciled;". |
| 12 | SEC. 9. REQUIRING PROMPT NOTIFICATION OF REJECTION |
| 13 | OF VOTER REGISTRATION OR ABSENTEE |
| 14 | BALLOT REQUEST. |
| 15 | Section 102(d) of the Uniformed and Overseas Citi- |
| | |
| 16 | zens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff—1(d)) is |
| | zens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff—1(d)) is amended by striking "shall provide" and inserting "shall |
| 17 | |
| 17 | amended by striking "shall provide" and inserting "shall |
| 17 18 | amended by striking "shall provide" and inserting "shall promptly provide". |
| 17 18 19 | amended by striking "shall provide" and inserting "shall promptly provide". SEC. 10. USE OF DIPLOMATIC POUCH FOR RETURNING |
| 17 18 19 20 | amended by striking "shall provide" and inserting "shall promptly provide". SEC. 10. USE OF DIPLOMATIC POUCH FOR RETURNING COMPLETED ABSENTEE BALLOTS. |
| 17 18 19 20 21 | amended by striking "shall provide" and inserting "shall promptly provide". SEC. 10. USE OF DIPLOMATIC POUCH FOR RETURNING COMPLETED ABSENTEE BALLOTS. Section 101(c) of the Uniformed and Overseas Citi- |
| 17 18 19 20 21 22 | amended by striking "shall provide" and inserting "shall promptly provide". SEC. 10. USE OF DIPLOMATIC POUCH FOR RETURNING COMPLETED ABSENTEE BALLOTS. Section 101(c) of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff(c)) is amend- |

| 1 | seas voter delivers a completed absentee ballot to an |
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| 2 | overseas facility of the Department of State, the |
| 3 | Secretary of State shall use the diplomatic pouch to |
| 4 | transmit the ballot to the United States, but only |
| 5 | if— |
| 6 | "(A) the ballot is delivered to the facility |
| 7 | not earlier than 14 days prior to the date of the |
| 8 | election involved; and |
| 9 | "(B) the Secretary of State determines |
| 10 | that there is no effective alternative available at |
| 11 | the location of the facility (including private |
| 12 | courier services) for the overseas voter to use to |
| | |
| 13 | ensure the timely receipt of the ballot.". |
| 13 14 | ensure the timely receipt of the ballot.". SEC. 11. GRANT PROGRAM FOR OUTREACH TO ABSENT UNI- |
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| 14 | SEC. 11. GRANT PROGRAM FOR OUTREACH TO ABSENT UNI- |
| 14 15 | SEC. 11. GRANT PROGRAM FOR OUTREACH TO ABSENT UNI- FORMED SERVICES VOTERS AND OVERSEAS |
| 14 15 16 | SEC. 11. GRANT PROGRAM FOR OUTREACH TO ABSENT UNI- FORMED SERVICES VOTERS AND OVERSEAS VOTERS. |
| 14 15 16 17 | SEC. 11. GRANT PROGRAM FOR OUTREACH TO ABSENT UNI- FORMED SERVICES VOTERS AND OVERSEAS VOTERS. (a) Establishment of Program.— |
| 14 15 16 17 | SEC. 11. GRANT PROGRAM FOR OUTREACH TO ABSENT UNIFORMED SERVICES VOTERS AND OVERSEAS VOTERS. (a) Establishment of Program.— (1) Program described.—The Election As- |
| 114 115 116 117 118 | SEC. 11. GRANT PROGRAM FOR OUTREACH TO ABSENT UNIFORMED SERVICES VOTERS AND OVERSEAS VOTERS. (a) Establishment of Program.— (1) Program described.—The Election Assistance Commission (hereafter referred to as the |
| 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 | SEC. 11. GRANT PROGRAM FOR OUTREACH TO ABSENT UNIFORMED SERVICES VOTERS AND OVERSEAS VOTERS. (a) Establishment of Program.— (1) Program described.—The Election Assistance Commission (hereafter referred to as the "Commission") shall establish and operate a pro- |
| 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 | SEC. 11. GRANT PROGRAM FOR OUTREACH TO ABSENT UNIFORMED SERVICES VOTERS AND OVERSEAS VOTERS. (a) Establishment of Program.— (1) Program described.—The Election Assistance Commission (hereafter referred to as the "Commission") shall establish and operate a program for making grants to eligible organizations for |
| 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 | FORMED SERVICES VOTERS AND OVERSEAS VOTERS. (a) Establishment of Program.— (1) Program described.—The Election Assistance Commission (hereafter referred to as the "Commission") shall establish and operate a program for making grants to eligible organizations for carrying out activities to assist absent uniformed |

| 1 | tion in advance of the date of an election on how to |
|----|--|
| 2 | cast absentee ballots in such elections. |
| 3 | (2) PERIOD OF GRANT.—Each grant awarded |
| 4 | under the program under this section shall cover a |
| 5 | 2-year period. |
| 6 | (b) Eligibility of Organizations.— |
| 7 | (1) In general.—An organization is eligible to |
| 8 | receive a grant under the program under this section |
| 9 | if the organization submits to the Commission, at |
| 10 | such time and in such form as the Commission may |
| 11 | require, an application containing information and |
| 12 | assurances that the organization meets the specific |
| 13 | requirements for eligibility described in paragraph |
| 14 | (2), together with such other information and assur- |
| 15 | ances as the Commission considers appropriate. |
| 16 | (2) Specific requirements for eligi- |
| 17 | BILITY.—The specific requirements described in this |
| 18 | paragraph are as follows: |
| 19 | (A) The organization is nonpartisan in na- |
| 20 | ture and will carry out activities funded by the |
| 21 | grant in a non partisan manner. |
| 22 | (B) The organization will use the funds |
| 23 | provided under the grant to carry out projects |
| 24 | designed to increase the meaningful participa- |

| 1 | tion of absent uniformed services voters and |
|----|--|
| 2 | overseas voters in elections for Federal office. |
| 3 | (C) The organization will carry out |
| 4 | projects that include at least one of the fol- |
| 5 | lowing activities: |
| 6 | (i) Outreach and education to identify |
| 7 | absent uniformed services voters and over- |
| 8 | seas voters and provide them with accurate |
| 9 | information about voter registration and |
| 10 | voting in elections for Federal office, and |
| 11 | to provide the information well in advance |
| 12 | of applicable State deadlines. |
| 13 | (ii) Providing assistance to absent |
| 14 | uniformed services voters and overseas vot- |
| 15 | ers in registering to vote and casting bal- |
| 16 | lots in elections for Federal office, and to |
| 17 | provide the assistance well in advance of |
| 18 | applicable State deadlines. |
| 19 | (iii) Protecting absentee ballots cast |
| 20 | by absent uniformed services voters and |
| 21 | overseas voters from incorrect disqualifica- |
| 22 | tion or rejection so that all such ballots |
| 23 | which are properly cast are counted, by |
| 24 | carrying out accountability oversight of |
| 25 | State and local election officials and edu- |

| 1 | cating such officials of the requirements of |
|----|--|
| 2 | Federal and State laws and regulations |
| 3 | governing the treatment of these ballots, |
| 4 | including the Uniformed and Overseas |
| 5 | Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. |
| 6 | 1973ff et seq.) and any applicable State |
| 7 | and local laws. |
| 8 | (D) The organization will file the reports |
| 9 | required under subsection (d). |
| 10 | (E) The organization will not compile the |
| 11 | names of the absent uniformed services voters |
| 12 | and overseas voters who participate in the |
| 13 | projects funded with the grant for purposes of |
| 14 | a membership list, fundraising, or any commer- |
| 15 | cial purpose. |
| 16 | (3) Joint eligibility of multiple organi- |
| 17 | ZATIONS.—Two or more organizations may be con- |
| 18 | sidered a single eligible organization for purposes of |
| 19 | receiving a grant under the program under this sec- |
| 20 | tion, so long as each of them meet the specific re- |
| 21 | quirements for eligibility described in paragraph (2). |
| 22 | (c) Criteria for Selection Among Eligible Or- |
| 23 | GANIZATIONS.—In selecting among eligible organizations |
| 24 | for making grants under the program under this section |

| 1 | and in determining the amount of the grant awarded, the |
|----|---|
| 2 | Commission shall take into consideration the following: |
| 3 | (1) The need to ensure an appropriate distribu- |
| 4 | tion of participants among various geographic areas |
| 5 | based upon the most recent available data on the |
| 6 | number and location of absent uniformed services |
| 7 | voters and overseas voters. |
| 8 | (2) The extent to which the organizations enter |
| 9 | into partnerships and other collaborative agreements |
| 10 | to carry out the projects involved. |
| 11 | (3) The extent to which the organization's ap- |
| 12 | proach to providing services under the projects re- |
| 13 | flects innovation and creativity, including the use of |
| 14 | innovative technologies. |
| 15 | (4) In the case of voter education projects, the |
| 16 | clarity of presentation and ease of use of the infor- |
| 17 | mation provided to voters. |
| 18 | (d) Reporting Requirement.— |
| 19 | (1) Reports.—Each eligible organization that |
| 20 | receives a grant under the program under this sec- |
| 21 | tion shall submit to the Commission a report con- |
| 22 | taining the following information with respect to |
| 23 | each year covered by the grant: |
| 24 | (A) A description of the projects carried |
| 25 | out with funds provided under the grant during |

| 1 | the year (and arranged to be carried out during |
|----|---|
| 2 | the succeeding year, in the case of a report with |
| 3 | respect to an odd-numbered year). |
| 4 | (B) The number of absent uniformed serv- |
| 5 | ices voters and overseas voters to whom out- |
| 6 | reach was provided under the projects. |
| 7 | (C) The number of absent uniformed serv- |
| 8 | ices voters and overseas voters registered during |
| 9 | the year under the projects. |
| 10 | (D) In the case of a report filed with re- |
| 11 | spect to an odd-numbered year, the organiza- |
| 12 | tion's target for the number of absent uni- |
| 13 | formed services voters and overseas voters to |
| 14 | whom the organization will provide assistance |
| 15 | during the following year (including the target |
| 16 | for the number of absentee ballots to be cast by |
| 17 | such voters). |
| 18 | (E) In the case of a report filed with re- |
| 19 | spect to an even-numbered year, the number of |
| 20 | absent uniformed services voters and overseas |
| 21 | voters to whom the organization provided as- |
| 22 | sistance during the year and the number of ab- |
| 23 | sentee ballots cast by such voters. |
| 24 | (F) The organization's analysis of the op- |
| 25 | portunities for replication of the projects. |

| 1 | (G) The number of absentee ballots sub- |
|----|--|
| 2 | mitted by absent uniformed services voters and |
| 3 | overseas voters which were not subject to un- |
| 4 | reasonable rejection or disqualification as a re- |
| 5 | sult of the projects. |
| 6 | (2) Deadline.—The organization shall submit |
| 7 | the report required under this subsection with re- |
| 8 | spect to a year not later than 90 days after the end |
| 9 | of the year. |
| 10 | (e) Definitions.—In this section— |
| 11 | (1) the term "absent uniformed services voter" |
| 12 | has the meaning given such term in section $107(1)$ |
| 13 | of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee |
| 14 | Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff—6(1)); and |
| 15 | (2) the term "overseas voter" has the meaning |
| 16 | given such term in subparagraphs (B) and (C) of |
| 17 | section 107(5) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff— |
| 18 | 6(5)). |
| 19 | (f) Authorization of Appropriations.— |
| 20 | (1) Amount authorized.—There are author- |
| 21 | ized to be appropriated for grants under the pro- |
| 22 | gram under this section an aggregate amount of |
| 23 | \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2010 and each of the |
| 24 | first 4 succeeding 2-fiscal year periods. |

| 1 | (2) Availability.—Amounts appropriated pur- |
|----|---|
| 2 | suant to the authorization under this subsection |
| 3 | shall remain available until expended. |
| 4 | SEC. 12. OTHER OUTREACH EFFORTS TO ENCOURAGE |
| 5 | OVERSEAS CITIZENS TO CAST ABSENTEE |
| 6 | BALLOTS IN ELECTIONS. |
| 7 | (a) Requiring Offices With Overseas Per- |
| 8 | SONNEL TO PROVIDE NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITIES TO |
| 9 | Cast Absentee Ballots.— |
| 10 | (1) IN GENERAL.—The head of each office of |
| 11 | the Federal government that has employees whose |
| 12 | designated post of duty is outside the United States |
| 13 | shall provide such employees with notice of the |
| 14 | rights provided to absent uniformed services voters |
| 15 | and overseas voters under the Uniformed and Over- |
| 16 | seas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to submit voter |
| 17 | registration and absentee ballot requests and to sub- |
| 18 | mit absentee ballots (including the Federal write-in |
| 19 | absentee ballot described in such Act). |
| 20 | (2) TIMING OF NOTICE.—The head of an office |
| 21 | shall provide the notice required under paragraph |
| 22 | (1) not later than September 1 of each odd-num- |
| 23 | bered year and June 1 of each even-numbered year. |
| 24 | (b) INCLUDING INFORMATION IN PASSPORTS.—The |
| 25 | Secretary of State shall ensure that each passport issued |

- 1 on or after the date of the enactment of this Act includes
- 2 a page describing the rights provided to overseas voters
- 3 under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Vot-
- 4 ing Act to submit voter registration and absentee ballot
- 5 requests and to submit absentee ballots (including the
- 6 Federal write-in absentee ballot described in such Act),
- 7 and shall include on the page a list of resources through
- 8 which individuals may obtain additional information re-
- 9 garding such rights.

10 SEC. 13. REGULATIONS.

- Not later than 30 days after the date of the enact-
- 12 ment of this Act, the Presidential designee under the Uni-
- 13 formed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act shall
- 14 promulgate such regulations as may be necessary to carry
- 15 out the amendments made to such Act by this Act, includ-
- 16 ing regulations to redesign and rename the Federal Voter
- 17 Registration and Absentee Ballot Application under sec-
- 18 tion 101 of such Act to reflect the amendments made by
- 19 section 2 of this Act.

20 SEC. 14. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION REGARDING INTERNET

- 21 **VOTING.**
- Nothing in this Act or in any amendment made by
- 23 this Act may be construed to authorize the Presidential
- 24 designee under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Ab-
- 25 sentee Voting Act or any State or local election official

- 1 to require or authorize any absent uniformed services
- 2 voter or overseas voter under such Act or any other indi-
- 3 vidual to use the Internet to cast a ballot in any election
- 4 for public office.

5 SEC. 15. EFFECTIVE DATE.

- 6 The amendments made by this Act shall apply with
- 7 respect to elections occurring on or after the expiration
- 8 of the 120-day period which begins on the date of the en-
- 9 actment of this Act.